

## Republicans are more likely than Democrats to see Israel as a U.S. ally: AP-NORC poll



U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Linda Thomas-Greenfield speaks during a Security Council meeting at United Nations headquarters, Friday, Sep. 27, 2024.

Associated Press

By AMELIA THOMSON-DEVEAUX  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — After a year of war between Israel and Hamas, U.S. public opinion on the conflict remains polarized, a new survey by the Pearson Institute and The Associated Press-NORC Center for

Public Affairs Research finds, with Democrats more likely to be critical of Israel, while Republicans remain more supportive.

There are a few points of relative consensus — about half of U.S. adults, for example, say Hamas bears “a lot” of responsibility for

the continuation of the war, while about one quarter says it has “some” responsibility and about 2 in 10 say it has “not much” responsibility or “none at all.”

But U.S. adults remain divided on the extent to which the Israeli government is responsible for the con-

flict continuing. And the findings indicate that the past year of war hasn't done much to widen or narrow the partisan gulf that existed early in the conflict.

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# Republicans are more likely than Democrats to see Israel as a U.S. ally: AP-NORC poll

Continued from Front

Democrats remain more sympathetic toward the Palestinians than Republicans and more critical of Israel, while Republicans are more likely to sympathize with the Israelis and view Israel as a U.S. ally that shares the United States' values and interests.

However, it's unclear from this survey if public opinion will shift as the war in the Middle East expands beyond Gaza. It was conducted from Sept. 12 to 16, before Israel's military significantly escalated its operations against Hezbollah in Lebanon and before Iran launched missiles at Israel on Tuesday. Hamas, based in Gaza, and Hezbollah, based in Lebanon, are militant groups allied with Iran. Americans largely don't blame the US government President Joe Biden has maintained crucial U.S. military support to Israel throughout the Gaza war, while repeatedly trying — and failing — to broker a cease-fire. Americans are most likely to place "a lot" of blame on Hamas for the continuation of the war between Israel and the militant group, followed by the Israeli government, and the Iranian government and groups backed by Iran.

They place much less responsibility on their own country. Only about 1 in 10 Americans say the U.S. government bears "a lot" of responsibility for the continuation of the war between Israel and Hamas, while about 4 in 10 say it bears "some" responsibility, and 45% say the U.S. bears "not much" or no responsibility at all.

Democrats are slightly more likely than Republicans to say the U.S. has "some" responsibility, but overall the partisan differences on this question are small.

Brian Grider, a 48-year-old Republican from Moscow, Ohio, isn't sure how the U.S. could defuse the conflict.

"I don't know if there's anything we can do," he said. "It would be nice if



Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addresses the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Friday, Sept. 27, 2024. Associated Press

we could and we might want to try, but is it going to work? Probably not."

Republicans more likely than Democrats to see Israel as an ally

The year of fighting appears to have calcified the partisan divide on the war and the U.S. relationship with Israel.

About half of Republicans view Israel as an ally of the U.S. that shares its values and interests, while about half of Democrats think Israel is a partner that the U.S. should cooperate with but that doesn't share American values and interests.

More than half of Democrats also say the Israeli government bears "a lot" of responsibility for the continuation of the war, compared to about 4 in 10 Republicans.

Brian Becker, a 49-year-old Democrat in Colorado, says his views of the war shifted after hearing more on social media about Palestinians and Palestinian Americans who were harmed by the war.

"I didn't feel like that was fair for them," Becker said. "So that did start to

change my mind a little bit, started to give that waver of support to Palestine," he said. "Where before I probably would have been just, 'Yeah, go Israel.'"

On the other hand, about half of Republicans say they sympathize more with the Israelis than the Palestinians, while Democrats are more likely to say they sympathize with both groups equally.

Grider, the Ohio Republican, thinks Israel responded appropriately to the Oct. 7 attack, comparing it to the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in the U.S.

"I definitely don't think Israel is doing too much in response to what happened to them," he said.

Overall views of the war remain stable

Views of the Israel-Hamas conflict, and the U.S. role in mediating it, haven't shifted much over the course of the year.

Support for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state rose slightly, from around 2 in 10 in August 2023 to about 3 in 10 now. (About half of Americans currently say they nei-

ther favor nor oppose an independent Palestinian state, and about 2 in 10 are opposed.) There was also a slight uptick in the share of Americans who think the U.S. is too supportive of Israel.

But about 4 in 10 U.S. adults continue to say the U.S. is spending "too much" on military aid to Israel in the war, while a similar share say the U.S. is spending "the right amount." About 1 in 10 say the U.S. is spending "too little," which is in line with an AP-NORC poll conducted in early 2024.

The mix of U.S. opinions on the Gaza war reflects the complexity of a conflict where Americans may see bad actors and innocent victims on both sides, according to Paul Poast, a political scientist at the University of Chicago and a research affiliate of the Pearson Institute.

"This leads to people having very strong views on both sides, which, of course, we've seen," Poast said. And it doesn't, he added, make for "a consistent narrative of, 'We've got to support Israel,' or

'We've got to support the Palestinians.'"

Hamas killed about 1,200 people in Israel on Oct. 7 and took hostages, some of whom are still being held in Gaza. Israel's military campaign in Gaza has killed more than 41,000 Palestinians. Gaza health officials do not distinguish between civilians and combatants in their death toll but say many of those killed are women and children.

Charles Jolivet, a 42-year-old Democrat in New Orleans who developed concerns about Israel's offensive through discussions with friends and colleagues who have Palestinian heritage, has observed a kind of echo-chamber effect, where people on the different sides of the issue seem to only hear views that reflect their own beliefs.

"But I would love to have some more," Jolivet said, referring to exchanges of view with people who see the conflict differently. And for "not only mainstream media, but the mainstream American populace, to have that ability to have these real conversations." □



# Cybersecurity head says there's no chance a foreign adversary can change US election results

By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY  
and ALI SWENSON  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Security for America's election systems has become so robust that Russia, Iran or any other foreign adversary will not be able to alter the outcome of this year's presidential race, the head of the nation's cybersecurity agency said Wednesday. Jen Easterly told The Associated Press in an interview that voting, ballot-counting and other election infrastructure is more secure today than it's ever been.

"Malicious actors, even if they tried, could not have an impact at scale such that there would be a material effect on the outcome of the election," said Easterly, director of the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. Federal agencies have warned of growing attempts by Russia and Iran in particular to influence voters before the Nov. 5 election and election conspiracy theories have left millions of Americans doubting the validity of election results. Easterly said those efforts are primarily aimed at sowing discord among Americans and undermining faith in the security of the nation's elections.



Director of the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Jen Easterly speaks to The Associated Press in Washington, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2024.

U.S. officials have spent recent months warning through criminal charges, sanctions and public advisories that foreign adversaries are ramping up their efforts to influence the White House contest between Republican Donald Trump and Democrat Kamala Harris. The Biden administration last month seized more than two dozen Kremlin-run fake websites and charged two Russian state media employees in a scheme to covertly fund right-wing in-

fluencers.

Last week, three Iranian operatives were charged with hacking Trump's campaign in what the Justice Department says was part of a sweeping effort to undermine the former president and erode confidence in the U.S. electoral system. Intelligence agencies and tech companies have tracked both Russian and Iranian actors using fake websites and social media profiles to spread misinformation, stoke division and

potentially sway American voters. Iran and Russia have sought to influence past U.S. elections through online disinformation and hacking. Easterly noted that China also was "very interested" in influencing the 2024 election.

Beyond the influence campaigns, she said her agency had not detected any activity targeting election systems.

"We have not seen specific cyber activity designed to interfere with actual elec-

tion infrastructure or processes," Easterly said.

The prevalence of election misinformation has become a widespread concern, with secretaries of state and some larger local election offices establishing specific efforts to combat it.

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner of Virginia, a Democrat who leads the Senate Intelligence Committee, last week wrote a letter to Easterly that urged the agency to take further steps against election misinformation and disinformation, including coordinating with social media platforms to combat false claims.

In the interview, Easterly acknowledged "a very convoluted, very confusing information environment," and said her agency works with election officials to promote accurate information.

However, she also made it clear that her agency does not monitor social media sites or attempt to moderate their content.

"That is not our role," she said.

She encouraged voters who question how elections are run to contact their local election office and even volunteer to serve as poll workers so they understand the process and the safeguards already in place. □

Associated Press

## Five Chinese nationals charged with covering up midnight visit to Michigan military site

By ED WHITE  
Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — U.S. authorities charged five Chinese nationals with lying and trying to cover their tracks, more than a year after they were confronted in the dark near a remote Michigan military site where thousands of people had gathered for summer drills. The five, who were University of Michigan students at the time, were not charged for what happened at Camp Grayling in August 2023. Rather they are accused of misleading investigators about the trip and conspiring to clear their phones of photos, according to a criminal complaint filed in federal court.

The FBI noted in the Tuesday court filing that there have been instances of college students from China taking photos of vital defense sites in the United States.

There was nothing in the file revealing the whereabouts of the five men.

"The defendants are not in custody. Should they come into contact with U.S. authorities, they will be arrested and face these charges," Gina Balaya, a spokesperson for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Detroit, said Wednesday.

In summer 2023, the five were confronted after midnight near a lake by a sergeant major with the Utah National Guard. One said, "We are media," before they collected their belongings and agreed to leave the area, the FBI said.

The FBI learned that the men had booked a room at a nearby motel a week before they were spotted outside Camp Grayling, 200 miles (321.8 kilometers) north of Detroit. □



This photo shows an aerial view of Camp Grayling Joint Maneuver Training Center in Grayling, Mich., July 19, 2014.

Associated Press



# Court says betting on U.S. congressional elections can resume, for now

By **WAYNE PARRY**  
Associated Press

**ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)**

— Betting on the outcome of U.S. Congressional elections can resume, at least temporarily, a federal appeals court ruled Wednesday.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit dissolved an order it had previously issued that prevented New York start-up company Kalshi from taking bets on which political party would control the House and Senate after this November's elections.

The ruling clears the way for such betting to resume while the court further considers the underlying issues in the case.

So far, Kalshi has only offered bets on congressional races; it was not immediately clear whether they plan to expand offerings to include the presidential election.

The court said it could reconsider a ban if the commission provides new evidence of serious harm to the public interest in the coming weeks.

Yaakov Roth, an attorney for Kalshi, said the com-



**Democratic vice presidential nominee Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz speaks during a vice presidential debate hosted by CBS News, with Republican vice presidential nominee Sen. JD Vance, R-Ohio, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024, in New York.**

Associated Press

pany is now free to resume taking such bets, but did not know if it had already done so.

No such markets were listed on the company's website as of 2 p.m., and a company spokeswoman did not immediately return a message seeking comment. The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the government agency trying

to prevent such betting, declined comment.

Kalshi is seeking government approval and regulation of political bets.

But the commission denied that approval, saying that such bets are vulnerable to manipulation, and could lessen already fragile confidence in the integrity of American elections.

A federal court last month

ruled in favor of Kalshi, which took about \$50,000 worth of such bets in the eight hours after the ruling, until the appeals panel issued a freeze on them.

That freeze was melted on Wednesday when the court ruled that the commission did not prove that irreparable harm was likely to result from the resumption of election betting.

Better Markets, a non-profit group advocating for the public interest in financial markets, called it "a sad and ominous day for election integrity in the United States."

"Gambling on elections will create powerful new incentives for bad actors to interfere with our elections and sway voters outside of the democratic process," said Stephen Hall, the group's legal director. "The use of AI, deepfakes and social media to manipulate voters and influence election outcomes has already become all too real. Ready access to an election gambling contract such as Kalshi's will intensify that danger with the promise of quick profits."

Hall said that allowing bets this late in the election cycle could open the door to potentially unfixable problems.

"There is no way to undo the potential damage to the public interest of allowing bets in the final weeks of an election year," he said. "No matter what, we have yet another reason to be concerned about the upcoming elections." □

# Army returns remains of 9 Indigenous children who died at boarding school over a century ago

**CARLISLE, Pa. (AP)** — The remains of nine more Native American children who died at a notorious government-run boarding school in Pennsylvania over a century ago were disinterred from a small Army cemetery and returned to families, authorities said Wednesday.

The remains were buried on the grounds of the Carlisle Barracks, home of the U.S. Army War College. The children attended the former Carlisle Indian Industrial School, where thousands of Indigenous children were taken from their families and forced to assimilate to white society as a matter of U.S. policy. The Office of Army Cemeteries said it concluded the remains of nine children found in the

graves were "biologically consistent" with information contained in their student and burial records. The remains were transferred to the children's families. Most have already been rebur-

ied on Native lands, Army officials said Wednesday.

Workers also disinterred a grave thought to have belonged to a Wichita tribe child named Alfred Char-

ko, but the remains weren't consistent with those of a 15-year-old boy, the Army said. The remains were reburied in the same grave, and the grave was marked unknown. Army officials said they would try to locate Alfred's gravesite.

"The Army team extends our deepest condolences to the Wichita and Affiliated Tribe," Karen Durham-Aguilera, executive director of the Office of Army Cemeteries, said in a statement. "The Army is committed to seeking all resources that could lead us to more information on where Alfred may be located and to help us identify and return the unknown children in the Carlisle Barracks Post Cemetery." The nine children whose remains were returned were identi-

fied Wednesday as Fanny Chargingshield, James Cornman and Samuel Flying Horse, from the Oglala Sioux Tribe; Almeda Heavy Hair, Bishop L. Shield and John Bull, from the Gros Ventre Tribe of the Fort Belknap Indian Community; Kati Rosskidwits, from the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes; Albert Mekko, from the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; and William Norkok, from the Eastern Shoshone Tribe.

The Army declined to release details on one grave disinterment, saying the tribe asked for privacy. More than 10,000 children from more than 140 tribes passed through the school between 1879 and 1918, including Olympian Jim Thorpe. □



**A building that formed part of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School campus is seen at U.S. Army's Carlisle Barracks, June 10, 2022, in Carlisle, Pa.**

Associated Press



## The U.K. and EU vow to mend their Brexit battered ties

By LORNE COOK  
Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — The United Kingdom and the European Union agreed on Wednesday to strengthen their relationship after the damage caused by Brexit and to hold a series of meetings, including at the highest level, on issues like economic growth, energy, security and migration. In a statement issued after talks in Brussels, U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen agreed on "the importance of the unique relationship" they share and vowed to "ambitiously" strengthen their cooperation.

The leaders both recommitted to the Withdrawal Agreement and other pacts reached on the terms of Brexit as Britain left the world's biggest trade bloc four years ago, the first country to do so, creating a deep rift between them. They also reaffirmed their commitment to uphold international law and to the European Convention on Human Rights. Hard-line Brexiteers want the U.K. to leave the con-



Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer meets European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in Brussels, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2024.

Associated Press

vention so that asylum-seekers can be deported without the intervention of rights courts. Britons voted to leave the EU during the 2016 Brexit referendum, when a key promise of the campaign to exit was that it would give the U.K. more control over its borders. But immigration figures have gone up, not down, since then. Von der Leyen and Star-

mer underlined the shared challenges that they face, notably because of Russia's full-fledged invasion of Ukraine, and they both "reiterated their unwavering support for Ukraine's sovereignty." They said that "a stable, positive and forward-looking relationship was in their mutual interests and provided the basis for long term cooperation." An

agenda for their cooperation will be established in coming months. It would start by "defining together the areas in which strengthened cooperation would be mutually beneficial, such as the economy, energy, security and resilience, in full respect of their internal procedures and institutional prerogatives." The two said they would meet again in the fall, and

that the first of what should become a regular series of EU-U.K. summits should be held early next year.

Earlier, standing alongside von der Leyen, Starmer told reporters that he believes "the British public want to return to pragmatic, sensible leadership when it comes to dealing with our closest neighbors, to make Brexit work and to deliver in their interests, to find ways to boost economic growth, strengthen our security and tackle shared challenges like irregular migration and climate change."

Von der Leyen welcomed his visit and the opportunity to strengthen EU-U.K. relations.

"We have a set of solid agreements in place," she said. "We should explore the scope for more cooperation while we focus on the full and faithful implementation" of the Brexit agreements underpinning their painful and costly divorce.

Starmer also held talks with the other leaders of the bloc's main institutions: European Council President Charles Michel and European Parliament President Roberta Metsola. □

## Investigators in Haiti accuse three members of transitional presidential council of corruption

By DÁNICA COTO  
Associated Press

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)** — An anti-corruption agency in Haiti on Wednesday accused three members of the country's transitional presidential council of bribery in a scathing report that threatens to destabilize the country's fragile political stability.

Smith Augustin, Emmanuel Vertilaire and Louis Gérald Gilles are accused of demanding more than \$750,000 from the director of the government-owned National Bank of Credit to secure his job, the Unit for Combating Corruption said in its report. "The message is clear. No one is above the laws of our republic!" said Hans Joseph, the unit's director, as he detailed the corruption allegations during a news conference where he unveiled the report. Behind him stood at least half a dozen investigators wearing caps and face masks, their identities concealed.

The report is a significant blow to the nine-member council and is expected to further erode people's trust in it. The council

was appointed earlier this year after targeted gang violence forced the country's former prime minister to resign, leaving Haiti without a leader. The council works alongside new Prime Minister Garry Conille and is tasked with helping run the country. It wasn't immediately clear if the council would take any action against the three members, who did not return messages for comment.

Impunity remains widespread in Haiti even as the Unit for Combating Corruption continues cracking down on government officials.

The agency accused Gilles of organizing a meeting on May 25 among the council members, the former bank director, Raoul Pascal Pierre-Louis, and Haitian consul Lonick Léandre at the Royal Oasis Hotel in the capital of Port-au-Prince, where the demand for more than \$750,000 was made.

According to the report, Pierre-Louis told investigators that Gilles and Léandre took his phone and those of others present before the meeting began. □



Ex-senator Louis Gerald Gilles, from left to right, pastor Frinel Joseph, barrister Emmanuel Vertilaire, businessman Laurent Saint-Cyr, interim Prime Minister Michel Patrick Boisvert, Judge Jean Joseph Lebrun, who is not a member of the council, former senate president Edgard Leblanc, Regine Abraham, former central bank governor Fritz Alphonse Jean, former diplomat Leslie Voltaire and former ambassador to the Dominican Republic Smith Augustin, pose for a group photo during an installation ceremony, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Thursday, April 25, 2024.

Associated Press



# Mexico's Sheinbaum keeps doing morning briefings, though her style is unlike her predecessor's

By **FABIOLA SÁNCHEZ**

**Associated Press**

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Mexico's new President Claudia Sheinbaum started her day Wednesday much like her political mentor, ex-President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, began most of his: with an early morning news briefing from the National Palace.

López Obrador's news briefings, known as the "mañaneras," were marathon affairs, featuring folksy dialogue, verbal jousting with the press, and, frequently, long history lessons. His oratorical skills turned his 2 1/2-hour-long daily mañaneras into a powerful political weapon.

Sheinbaum kept her morning briefing shorter, less combative and more concise, in keeping with her character as a scientist and academic.

She said she would keep some of her predecessor's fixtures, like a weekly segment attacking what she called media "lies" about the government. The new president also continued a diplomatic dispute with Spain which has refused to apologize for abuses during the 1500s conquest of



**Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum gives a media briefing from the National Palace in Mexico City, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2024, the morning after her inauguration.**

Mexico that many thought she would try to defuse.

Sheinbaum also continued López Obrador's efforts to downplay drug cartel violence in the northern state of Sinaloa, saying it was not among the states with the highest number of murders this week.

It's no surprise that Sheinbaum decided to continue with the successful formula

of her mentor she has promised to continue virtually everything he did. She will hope to set the press's daily agenda just as López Obrador did throughout his presidency.

After her June 2 election victory, the former Mexico City mayor began holding midday news briefings that concluded within half an hour. Sheinbaum would

open with announcements and then take questions from journalists.

In Wednesday's first press conference, Sheinbaum was a bit more punctual in her responses and, unlike López Obrador, didn't use questions as a pretext for half-hour discourses on obscure chapters of Mexican history.

But she did open her first

press conference with a governmental apology on the 56th anniversary of the Oct. 2, 1968 army massacre of student pro-democracy protesters in Mexico City's Tlatelolco square in which as many as 300 people were killed.

Sheinbaum revealed that her mother had participated in the movement and had been expelled from a state-run university in retaliation.

"I have said before, I am a child of '68," Sheinbaum said, calling her memories of the period when she was 6 years old "something very painful."

During his presidency, which concluded Monday, the 70-year-old López Obrador held daily briefings Monday through Friday, combining jokes and harshness and, often, attacking journalists critical of his administration, publishing reporters' phone numbers and personal financial data. But Sheinbaum, a 62-year-old scientist-turned-politician, has another style.

"As a communicator she's different," said Roy Campos, president of the polling company Consulta-Mitosky. □

**Associated Press**

# Christmas starts in Venezuela, but the festive mood is nowhere to be found

By **REGINA GARCIA CANO**  
and **JUAN PABLO ARRAEZ**

**Associated Press**

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)** — It doesn't feel like Christmas in Venezuela. At least not yet. Even if the president wants it to be.

Residents of Caracas, the capital, woke up Tuesday to a towering Christmas tree standing in a popular public square, weeks after President Nicolás Maduro declared the jolly season would start earlier this year in the South American country.

Workers rushed to set up decorations in various neighborhoods, but the mood was far from festive. "I think it's terrible because

it's October," said Desiré Aguiar, 32, before setting up her jewelry and accessories booth in a local market. "Halloween hasn't even passed, and it's already Christmas? Are we celebrating them together?"

Venezuelans, particularly those who remember life at the turn of the century, have long associated Christmas with careless shopping and bulging wallets thanks to profit-sharing and holiday bonuses employers paid at the end of the year. Employees often received three times their monthly salary all at once. The smell of fresh paint even signaled the arrival

of Christmas because so many put a new coat on their walls.

These days, however, meager wages and bonuses resulting from the country's economic collapse have turned the season into a time of have and have-nots.

And this year, the season arrived amid a collective pessimism that followed the July 28 election.

"If they start paying... the Christmas bonus in advance, we won't have anything left in December," Aguiar lamented. "I think it's a really bad idea." It remains unclear whether public and private employers will make changes to



**People set up Christmas decorations in Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024.**

**Associated Press**

bonus payments this year. Maduro, whom electoral authorities handed a third six-year term, surprised the country on Sept. 2 when he declared on state television that the Christmas season would start earlier than ever.

Mockery followed Madu-

ro's decree across social media, but on the streets, few dared to say anything about the decision another sign of the chilling effect resulting from the repression campaign unleashed by the government after the highly anticipated election. □



## Visit the island's hidden natural pools

(Oranjestad)—Amongst the countless beaches surrounding the island that are well-known and frequently visited, there are an additional two “hidden” natural pools that are situated in the northern coast of the island, two ideal stops in your tour itinerary.

### Conchi (Natural Pool)

For many years, Conchi was the only natural pool that we had on the island. Located in the Arikok National Park, near Boca Keto and the Daimari Ranch, Conchi—also known “Cura

di Turtuga (Turtle's Cove) or just Natural Pool—is reachable with any 4x4 vehicle or by foot if you're up for a long hike. However, since it is part of the National Park, you must first get permission from park management to enter. You would have to purchase a day pass, and receive a wristband as proof of payment. Once you've completed that, you are set!

If you decide to hike from the entrance of the Arikok National Park, this is also possible: do bring plenty

of protective clothing and enough water and food—it could take you up to three hours to hike there!

However, when you eventually do get there, you will be greeted with crystal blue water surrounded by a natural rock formation that protects you from the wild waves on the other side. Though the pool is located on the northern side of the island (where the sea is largely rough and largely no suitable for swimming), the pool itself is very calm. It's also relatively deep, and you can climb up the rocks and jump in!

### Cave Pool

This relatively new pool appeared just a few years ago, when a part of the dried up coral floor broke off and created a partition between the ocean and what is now the natural pool that is hidden there. Because it's still so new, there is no official name for it, but most people just call



it the cave pool.

Just like the Conchi, the new natural pool is situated on the northern coast of Aruba. However, this pool is much easier to reach with any type of vehicle, and there is no hiking needed. This spot has also become a regular stop for touring visitors.

When you get there, maybe you won't be able to spot the pool immediately, because you will probably notice the moon-shaped lagoon where wild northern

waves crash into each other. Sounds scary, but if you look down on your right, you'll see a calm, crystal blue little pool in the corner. To get there, you have to climb down some stairs. Be careful when climbing down and follow the instructions of your tour guide if you have one.

And just like Conchi, this pool also has a jumping spot, and a rope to climb back up the boulder. □

Picture of cave pool is credited to RockaBeach Tours



## Aruba: The island of Aloes

ORANJESTAD – Aloe vera, a succulent plant species, is renowned for its incredible properties for the skin. It is widely distributed and usually grows in tropical, semi-tropical and arid climates on the planet. But this plant also had a very prominent role in the history of Aruba, and its significance to the island's economy endures to this day.

The leaves of Aloe vera contain a good amount of gel which when used topically, is great for the skin. Traditionally, Arubans use this gel to treat minor burns and other skin ailments, or just to keep skin supple and looking bright and nourished. Aside from the gel, aloe contains a bitter, yellow substance (called aloin) which is a gentle but power-

ful laxative, and it is also the origin of the industry of aloe in Aruba.

According to the website of Royal Aruba Aloe, Aloe vera was introduced in Aruba around 1840, when most of the island's inhabitants were farmers of little means. Dutch Governor Van Raders introduced the plant after it had been introduced in other islands of the Caribbean to cultivate and harvest the aloe to produce the laxative.

Around 1920, about two-thirds of Aruba was aloe fields, earning our island the nickname “The Island of Aloes.”

Under Commander Jan Helenus Ferguson (1866-1871), aloe experienced a boom, which is why there is a road named after him, which goes through the aloe fields. In the 19th century, Aruba was the main supplier of aloin for laxative, which was imported abroad to the United States and Europe. The aloin from Aruba and Curaçao was known to be one of the best in the world and was more expensive, which meant that at the time, it had significant economic impact, particularly for the local farmers.



However, by the time the oil industry arrived on Aruba, it changed the labor market on Aruba, shifting away from agriculture. It would be after World War II that aloe would make a comeback. And eventually, as science learned about the amazing properties of aloe gel, the industry shifted from producing laxative to producing skin care. An interesting fact is that in 1951, the production of Aruban aloe amounted to around 30 percent of the total global production!

The impact and relevance of aloe is visible all around Aruba. While most homes will have a few plants for personal use and decoration, houses are also decorated with aloe motifs, and at some point, aloe even featured on post stamps. Around 1920, about two-thirds of Aruba was aloe fields, earning our island the nickname “The Island of Aloes.” And in 1955, the aloe became a part of Aruba's coat of arms, symbolizing prosperity for the island. □

Images from the archive of the National Library of Aruba.







## Papillon: Where Culinary Tradition Sparks with Timeless Elegance



**Tucked away in the vibrant heart of the Village for over a decade and a half, Papillon isn't just a restaurant; it's a culinary adventure waiting to unfold. Picture this: a sanctuary where the flavors of the French Caribbean have danced harmoniously with classic French fare for the past 15 years, all set against the backdrop of a movie-inspired ambiance that's as enchanting as it is welcoming.**

Located in the heart of Palm Beach and within walking distance from hotels and local markets in the area, Papillon takes the famous story of a French man experiencing the flavors and culture of the Caribbean and incorporates these aspects of the Caribbean touch into their French culinary repertoire. Step through the doors of the newly-expanded Papillon, and you're not just stepping into a dining establishment; you're stepping into a world where sophistication embraces you like an old friend. The decor, a homage to the allure of the iconic film, casts a spell of intimacy and comfort, urging you to settle in and relish every moment. Here, dining isn't just about sustenance; it's about indulging in an experience meticulously crafted to ignite your senses.

At the heart of Papillon's magic lies its menu – a symphony of flavors orchestrated by culinary artisans. Imagine savoring the decadent richness of foie gras or the sublime delicacy of frog legs, each dish a love letter to tradition infused with a dash of innovation. And oh, the spectacle of the Dover sole being expertly prepared table-side! It's culinary theater at its finest, leaving you spellbound with every bite. All this served with a backdrop of the Caribbean ambience, complete with live musical performances and an inviting and colorful twist to your dinner experience!

But wait, there's more! Enter the realm of the Chef's Table, a weekly extravaganza led by the maestro himself, Executive Chef Juan Ludeña. Prepare to be whisked away on a six-course odyssey, each dish meticulously paired with wines handpicked from the largest French wine selection on the island by the esteemed Maitre d' Michael Otten. It's a soirée reserved for those who truly appreciate the artistry of gastronomy – an exquisite symphony for the palate.



In essence, Papillon isn't just a restaurant; it's an oasis for epicurean explorers. It's where passion meets refinement, where every dish is a masterpiece waiting to be savored, and every moment is a celebration of the finer things in life. So if you're craving the warmth of French Caribbean delights, Papillon invites you to join them on an unforgettable journey for the senses. Bon appétit!

Papillon is located in Palm Beach in front of the Hilton Resort, and open from 5pm to 10pm. Early Bird takes places from 5pm to 7pm. For reservations or more information please contact the restaurant at +297 699 5400, e-mail them at [info@papillonaruba.com](mailto:info@papillonaruba.com) or visit their website at [papillonaruba.com](http://papillonaruba.com)





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## Aruba to me

**ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.**

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ..... Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note:

By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation. Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Mary Acevedo & Iris Rivera. They wrote to us saying: Aruba to me is sitting peacefully and watching the most beautiful sunset in the world! My wife and I have been coming to Aruba now for nearly 23 years. It's our home away from home! We love Aruba."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □



## Aruba Tourism Authority honored a loyal visitor at Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusive Resort!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Distinguished Visitor of Aruba. The honoree was respectfully honored with a certificate for her years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

### The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor	(10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador	(20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador	(35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

### The honoree was:

Distinguished Visitor  
Ms. Brianne Charrier from Scarborough Maine, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusive Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honoree, presented her with gifts, and thanked her for choosing Aruba as her favorite vacation destination, as her home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honoree was:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba's beaches.
- Aruba is safe.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- "My second home"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honoree for her continued visits to the "One Happy Island".



## Feeling parched? Grab refreshment by the side of the road!



**(Oranjestad)—Touring the island in the blistering heat can leave one feeling rather thirsty and looking to cool off. Luckily there are a few stands along the roads of Aruba that can offer you just what you need: a nice, refreshing beverage!**

These "coconut stands" can be found at several locations on the island, where you can cool off with delicious smoothies, drinks, snacks, and of course, fresh coconuts! Perfect during family outings around the island, these stands can be found in the following locations:

- Near the red Anchor in San Nicolas
- On the Linear Park in Oranjestad (in front of airport runway)
- At the California Light House hill
- Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruin
- Bushiribana Beach (Near the Ling & Song Supermarket)





**For a small island, Aruba sure has a lot of unique treasures. Among these, we have some subspecies of animals that are unique to our island. These have evolved to perfectly adapt to our desert climate and make Aruba their home. At the same time, they are part of what makes Aruba truly one of a kind.**

#### **Cascabel (rattlesnake, *Crotalus durissus unicolor*)**

According to the Arikok National Park, Aruba knows two kinds of snakes, the Santanero and the Cascabel. The cascabel belongs to the rattlesnake family. The cascabel is the only venomous snake from Aruba. It has a length of 65cm to 100cm, and is about 4 to 5cm wide. Its color varies from light brown to grey-brown, and its underbelly is white. On its back there are marks that are a little darker, in the shape of diamonds.

Its reproduction is oviparous, meaning the offspring can hatch from their eggs just before, during or immediately after laying.

The cascabel lives mainly in the Arikok National Park. It likes to live in dark places, and is thus found hidden among the limestone rocks and under stones. As a defense mechanism, the cascabel uses its rattle as a warning, and it is not an aggressive animal.

The cascabel feeds on lizards, small mammals such as rats and mice. It paralyzes or kills its prey with its venom, which is injected through a bite. The enemies of the casca-

bel are donkeys, goats, humans and cars. Humans are the biggest enemy of the cascabel, as they kill them and destroy their habitat for urbanization.

#### **Shoco (burrowing owl, *Athene cucularia arubensis*)**

The shoco is a small bird which is seldom seen. They are active during the day but are more active later in the day and at night for hunting. These owls have very good night vision and very good hearing. The shoco is the national symbol of Aruba.

The shoco has about 20cm of length, and the females are slightly heavier than the males. They are light brown in color, with many white spots. The belly of the Shoco is either white or light brown, and the shoco has striking yellow eyes. Its beak is yellow/green. Young owls do not have white spots and are lighter in color. The nest of the shoco is a burrow in the ground. If the shoco cannot find a burrow, it will dig one in soft soil. The shoco lays one or two eggs every other day until all the eggs are laid – a shoco can lay up to four eggs. The first owlets hatch after three to four weeks. The shoco owl takes care of the owlets for three months until they leave the nest. Only a few owlets survive.

The owls dig burrows in the ground with low grass vegetation. An owl can live up to nine years.

Its defense mechanism is simply to fly away or retreat to its burrows. They eat mostly insects, mice and

## Unique fauna of Aruba

lizards, and the main threats to their survival are boas – an invasive species introduced by humans as pets – and humans through destruction of their habitat.

#### **Prikichi (parakeet, *Aratinga pertinax*)**

The Prikichi is the national bird of Aruba. On Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao, parakeets can be found, but each of the three islands has a different breed. The Yellow-shouldered Amazon parakeet that we have on Aruba is also found along the coast of Venezuela. Unfortunately, there is interbreeding between the breeds due to cage birds from, for example, Curaçao being released on Aruba. The parakeet population on Aruba is in danger due to extensive deforestation occurring on the island because of the growing population.

The prikichi weighs between 90 to 100 grams. It has a greenish-brown head with some yellow around the eye. The back and wings of the parakeet are dark green, and the underside of the body is a lighter shade of green. There is also a bit of blue in the wings. The parakeet's beak is gray/black.

Parakeets often use termite nests as breeding sites. Parakeets are found in all natural environments (mondi) of the island. It defends itself by flying away and loud cries. Parakeets eat seeds from the pods of the Kwihi tree, Divi Divi, and columnar cactus. They also consume natural fruits. Its main predators are boa constrictors, humans.

#### **Conew (cottontail rabbit, *Sylvilagus floridanus nigronuchalis*)**

The Eastern Cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*) was probably brought over to the island by Indian settlers thousands of years ago as a source of food. This rabbit, locally known as Conew, has spread all over the island and has become part of our ecosystem. The very adaptable Conew can live in

a wide variety of habitats, including Aruba's xeric scrublands, where it typically grazes on weeds and grasses.

The Aruban Conew has a brownish grey color and a distinctive white belly. This white fur extends to the bottom of the tail which becomes visible as the rabbit runs. These rabbits can grow up to approximately 40 centimeters in length over their short lifespan of 3 years. Cottontail rabbits reach reproductive maturity when they are just 2 to 3 months old. A female rabbit, called a doe, finds a suitable nest spot under a shrub or rocks and lines it with fur. She can have an average of 3 to 4 litters per year averaging 5 young each. The doe only visits her young once or twice a day to nurse her babies for a period of 2 to 3 weeks. The young reach independence at 4 to 5 weeks.

The Aruban Conew is an endangered species and protected by Aruban law. The Conew is thought to have drastically declined due to an increase in human activities, habitat fragmentation and predation by the invasive Boa constrictor as well as feral cats and dogs. However, recently there seem to be more rabbit sightings in rural and wilderness areas and also in the National Park. This could be linked to a recent decline of the invasive Boa population after the long period of drought. As the Conew can reproduce very quickly, a short break in predation pressure can lead to a fast increase of rabbits. Sadly, the Boas are back on the rise again with the truly wet rainy seasons we have recently experienced. This could cause a new decline in the Conew population that was just starting to recover.

These are but a few of Aruba's beautiful inhabitant, which we must all contribute to protect. For more information, visit <https://www.arubanationalpark.org/main/flora-fauna/> □





## Aruba's neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names

Just like any other country, Aruba has unique and beautifully named neighborhoods that all form a part of its culture and development. Many of these names have a historical background and meaning that teaches us about the island and its rich culture every day.

With this series, we want to take you on a journey of discovery, where you'll learn not only the beautiful names but the history behind it that gives it life and meaning.

### Anabui/Tierra Del Sol

This neighborhood can be seen on Van Raders map and Werbata as Anna Boei. Anna Boei is a name of which there isn't much information about its origin.

The best historians were able to deduce is that this name came to be because of a miscommunication between Van Spengler and the natives who were living on the island. In the Arawak/Taino language one can find the word Anaiboa, which consists of Ana meaning flower or the best and Iboa; the juice of a cassava, which together would mean "the best juice of a cassava".

If one assumes that the actual word heard was Anaboio instead, consist-



ing of Ana meaning the best and Boio (bohio); house, the iteration of Anabui would mean "the best house." This is the origin that has been more or less speculated and assumed for the word Anabui and it's meaning.

During the second world war and later, this area was used as a terrain for training of shooting by militia and latero n Korps Mariniers (the marines of Aruba). By the end of the previous century a large part of Anabui was

developed to have luxurious villas and a golf course, which lead to it getting the name Tierra Del Sol, Spanish for Land of the Sun. The name is not an official name, but the name of the development project that took place. It is hoped that the original and 'old' name of Anabui is never lost and now it will be remembered by both locals and tourists.

### Angochi

This name can be seen on the Werbata map with little and cursive letters. It is the unofficial name for the area given by a tenant to the land that was rented to him.

The biggest probability that historians believe is that it comes from native descent, during the time in the 19th century where Mestizos still lived on Aruba. The name can't really be explain and according to books on its history seems to be more of a sign of corruption.

However, it seems to come from combining A(n), which is a generalizing prefix and Goeiza, which means 'the spirit of a living man'. Angochi remains more of a guess.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; An.□

## Meet Aruba's biggest hero Boy Ecury

**(Oranjestad)—This past May 4th, Aruba as well as The Netherlands commemorated those who sadly perished during the Second World War. As is known around the globe, this chapter in world history is one of the most tragic yet, and many soldiers and rebels have died on the frontline during this time.**

One of those rebels who have fought against the Nazi regime, was an Aruban named Segundo Jorge Adelberto "Boy" Ecury. Born in Aruba on April 23rd, 1922, Boy spent his childhood on the island, before being sent to The Netherlands by his father when he was 15 years old to continue his studies abroad. This was in 1937, three years before WWII broke out.

During the war, he actively participated in the rebellion in The Netherlands against the Nazi regime, but his rebellious streak and constant drive to fight for justice began even before the war broke out. Being a person of color with a Haitian heritage living in The Netherlands made him vulnerable to discrimination, and this inspired him to be an activist, to stand up and fight against discrimination

and oppression.

After seeing the horrific bombings of Rotterdam first-hand, he decided to join the resistance. At the same time, he was still studying and living with family in Tilburg. It was there where he met people who printed and distributed the rebellion newspaper. This would be the first of three rebellion group that he would join throughout his 4-year service to the resistance.

Boy's primary task as member of the group was to distract the German soldiers while others ran into hiding into alleyways. This he was able to do because of his skin color and confronting demeanor. Boy also participated in the multiple sabotaging operations against the German military occupying The Netherlands. These included bombings on German military trucks and trains. The group also helped people go into hiding, as well as opened fire against allies of the Nazi regime. In these operations, Boy really stood out for his cold bloodedness.

In 1943, he received a notice to be placed for work in Germany. This he

refused, of course, and went into hiding using multiple addresses in multiple cities. Because he was a wanted man, he of course could not continue to be active as a rebel. However, stubborn and naturally rebellious as he was, he always tried to join in on the operations regardless.

In 1944, after his friend Luis de Lanoy, a fellow rebel from Curacao, was arrested and executed, he moved to Delft, where he joined his third and last group in Rotterdam. During this time, he wrote a goodbye letter for his family, possibly knowing the risks of him being active again in the big cities.

Eventually, he proved himself right. On November 5th, 1944, Boy Ecury was arrested by German soldiers. He was placed in the "Oranjehotel" prison in Scheveningen, The Hague, where he was questioned. Despite being given away by an acquaintance, he himself never gave away the names of his comrades. Famously, he told his cell mate: "I will die with a smile on my face."

On November 6th, 1944, Ecury was executed. He was only 22 years old.



Ecury was buried with military honor. In 1949, the Aruban Government erected a monumental bust of him in front of what is now the linear park trail, and in 1984 he received the Resistance Memorial Cross postmortem.

Boy's life motto was this: "In my father's house, there is no place for a traitor."

**Source: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.**



# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

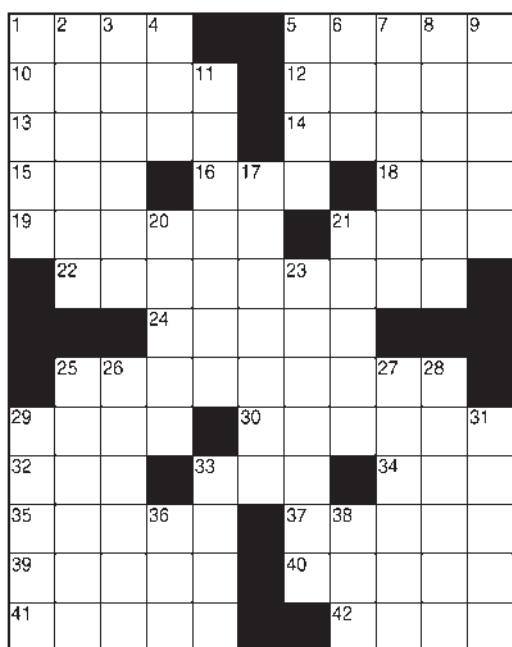
**ACROSS**  
 1 Auction proviso  
 5 Rocker setting  
 10 Recap  
 12 In the know  
 13 Become narrower  
 14 Put off  
 15 Genesis name  
 16 Slalom maneuver  
 18 Bar bill  
 19 Edit  
 21 Tiara adorners  
 22 Some pitchers  
 24 Key  
 25 Wild parties  
 29 Do some modeling  
 30 Texas team  
 32 Auction buy  
 33 Cal. column  
 34 Grammys category  
 35 Corn-husker city  
 37 "Pal Joey" writer  
 39 Moon of Saturn

**DOWN**  
 1 Showy flower  
 2 More smooth  
 3 Hamper  
 4 Take to court  
 5 Stationery buys  
 6 Have debts  
 7 Roof supporter  
 8 Defeats decisively  
 9 Cook's collection

SAWTO TOWEL  
 PROUD AROMA  
 RAMBO LAMBS  
 ABE ROLLERS  
 YIN SUB NYE  
 SASH TORSO  
 DUD YES  
 BONES OTTO  
 TAU CUE URN  
 ON BRAND DAS  
 PALIN SPINE  
 INEPT ERECT  
 CASES LOSES

Yesterday's answer

11 Exact  
 17 Out-standing  
 20 Full of energy  
 21 "Under-stand?"  
 23 Literary adaptation  
 25 Dorm sharer  
 26 Will subject  
 27 Book goofs  
 28 Flew high  
 29 Novel ideas  
 31 Digging tool  
 33 Stadium group  
 36 Deli meat  
 38 In what way



3-9

AXYDLBAAXR  
 is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-9

CRYPTOQUOTE

B G X Y X G N D M X A X Y K X B

W X X M N M E M H M B X Y X D B H M R

S H Z X . — O N Y J B U N H M

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: LIFE'S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS? — MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

## Cruise ship Schedule: October 01 - 13 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	01	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
WED	02	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
THU	03	WORLD EXPLORER	08.00	23.59	C	1
SUN	06	FREEWINDS - DEPT.	****	22.15	E	-
TUE	08	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	I	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
SUN	13	FREEWINDS - DEPT.	****	22.15	E	-

## Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

### Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

### Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

### Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

### Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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Open AI Chief Executive Officer Sam Altman, center, speaks at the Advancing Sustainable Development through Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy AI Event on Sept. 23, 2024, in New York.

Associated Press

## ChatGPT maker OpenAI raises \$6.6 billion in fresh funding as it moves away from its nonprofit roots

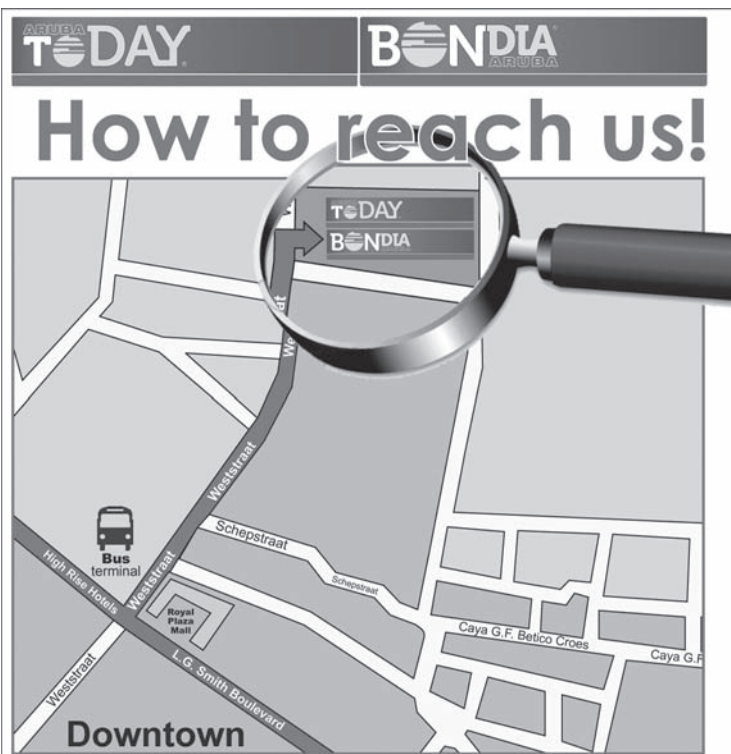
By **MATT O'BRIEN**  
AP Technology Writer

OpenAI said Wednesday it has raised \$6.6 billion in venture capital investments as part of a broader shift by the ChatGPT maker away from its nonprofit roots. Led by venture capital firm Thrive Capital, the funding round was backed by tech giants Microsoft, Nvidia and SoftBank, according to a source familiar with the funding who was not authorized to speak about it publicly.

The investment represents one of the biggest fundraising rounds in U.S. history, and ranks as the largest in the past 17 years that doesn't include money coming from a single deep-pocketed company, according to Pitch-

Book, which tracks venture capital investments. Microsoft pumped up OpenAI last year with a \$10 billion investment in exchange for a large stake in the company's future growth, mirroring a strategy that tobacco giant Altria Group deployed in 2018 when it invested \$12.8 billion into the now-beleaguered vaping startup Juul. □

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### Aruba Divi Phoenix

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#### San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours  
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#### Oranjestad:

del Pueblo : Tel.582 1253

#### San Nicolas:

Centro Medico:Tel. 584 5794

### OTHER

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002  
Urgent Care 586 0448  
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic  
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### EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

### TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

### TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
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### AID FOUNDATIONS

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# Hurricanes like Helene are deadly when they strike and keep killing for years to come

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**  
AP Science Writer

Hurricanes in the United States end up hundreds of times deadlier than the government calculates, contributing to more American deaths than car accidents or all the nation's wars, a new study said.

The average storm hitting the U.S. contributes to the early deaths of 7,000 to 11,000 people over a 15-year period, which dwarfs the average of 24 immediate and direct deaths that the government counts in a hurricane's aftermath, the study in Wednesday's journal *Nature* concluded. Study authors said even with Hurricane Helene's growing triple digit direct death count, many more people will die partly because of that storm in future years.

"Watching what's happened here makes you think that this is going to be a decade of hardship on tap, not just what's happening over the next couple of weeks," said Stanford University climate economist Solomon Hsiang, a study co-author and a former White House science and technology official.



Debris is visible in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, Sept. 30, 2024, in Asheville, N.C.

Associated Press

"After each storm there is sort of this surge of additional mortality in a state that's been impacted that has not been previously documented or associated with hurricanes in any way," Hsiang said.

Hsiang and University of California Berkeley researcher Rachel Young looked at hurricane deaths in a different way than previous studies, opting for

a more long-term public health and economics-oriented analysis of what's called excess mortality. They looked at states' death rates after 501 different storms hitting the United States between 1930 and 2015. And what they found is that after each storm there's a "bump" in death rates.

It's a statistical signature that they see over and over, Hsiang said.

Similar analyses are done for heat waves and other health threats like pollution and disease, he said. They compare to pre-storm times and adjust for other factors that could be causing changes in death rates, he said. Complicating everything is that the same places keep getting hit by multiple storms so there are death bumps upon death

over, Hsiang said.

Similar analyses are done for heat waves and other health threats like pollution and disease, he said. They compare to pre-storm times and adjust for other factors that could be causing changes in death rates, he said. Complicating everything is that the same places keep getting hit by multiple storms so there are death bumps upon death

bumps. Just how storms contribute to people's deaths after the immediate impact is something that needs further study, Hsiang said. But he theorized it includes the health effects of stress, changes in the environment including toxins, people not being able to afford health care and other necessities because of storm costs, infrastructure damage and government changes in spending.

"When someone dies a few years after a hurricane hit them, the cause will be recorded as a heart attack, stroke or respiratory failure," said Texas A&M University climate scientist Andrew Dessler, who wasn't part of the study but has done similar studies on heat and cold deaths.

"The doctor can't possibly know that a hurricane contributed/triggered the illness. You can only see it in a statistical analysis like this." Initially Hsiang and Young figured the storm death bump would go away in a matter of months, but they were surprised when they examined hundreds of bumps and found they stretch out, slowly, over 15 years, Hsiang said. □

## Swiss glaciers are receding again after 2 punishing years and despite a good start to 2024

**GENEVA (AP)** — The volume of Switzerland's glaciers shrank again this summer, compounding the negative impact of climate change after a devastating

two-year run that depleted the ice by more than 10%, scientific experts reported Tuesday.

The cryosphere observation team at the Swiss Acad-

emy of Sciences reported that high temperatures in July and August, combined with the heat-absorbing impact of reddish-yellow dust blown northward from the Sahara Desert onto Swiss glaciers, led to a loss of 2.5% of their volume this year.

The shrinkage came despite "extremely favorable" conditions through June, the academy said, thanks to 30% more snowfall in the preceding winter compared to average levels, meaning that the glaciers had an extra layer of protective covering of snow before temperatures rose.

"August saw the greatest loss of ice recorded since measurements began,"

the academy said in a statement summarizing the findings.

"The retreat of the glacier tongues and their disintegration continue unabated as a result of climate change," it said, adding that the 2.5% loss of volume was higher than the average levels over the last decade.

Experts at the Glacier Monitoring in Switzerland network, known as GLAMOS, said that more than half of the glaciers it monitored completely lost their snow coverage throughout the summer.

Several topmost measurement points on glaciers, such as Plaine Morte and Gries in the south and Sil-

vretta in the east, recorded melt rates of a meter or more, the network said in a report for the Swiss Academy of Sciences.

GLAMOS cited three factors: "very high" average air temperatures in July and August; good weather in those months in which there was no fresh snow; and southwesterly winds in the winter and spring that dumped the Saharan dust onto the Alps, causing a warming effect on the ice. Switzerland is home to the most glaciers of any country in Europe, and saw 4% of its total glacier volume disappear last year. That was the second-biggest decline in a single year on top of a 6% drop in 2022. □



Chunks of ice float in a lake in front of Rhone Glacier near Goms, Switzerland, June 15, 2023.

Associated Press



# Pete Rose still not going into Hall of Fame. His MLB ban was permanent not 'lifetime'

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**  
AP Baseball Writer

Pete Rose still isn't going into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

While the career hits leader's banishment from baseball 35 years ago was often referred to as a lifetime ban, and his death this week led some to believe that would end, Rose agreed to permanent ineligibility from Major League Baseball following a probe of his betting on the game. Anyone on the permanently ineligible list can't be considered for election to the Hall under a rule adopted by the Hall's board of directors in 1991. Rose's status didn't change when he died Monday at age 83 of natural causes in Las Vegas.

That certainly won't stop the debate about whether the 17-time All-Star with 4,256 hits deserves inclusion, or to now be posthumously inducted.

"The GREAT Pete Rose just died. He was one of the most magnificent baseball players ever to play the game. He paid the price! Major League Baseball should have allowed him into the Hall of Fame many years ago," former President and Republican candidate Donald Trump wrote



Former Cincinnati Reds player Pete Rose waves to fans after being introduced during the Reds Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, July 15, 2023, in Cincinnati.

Associated Press

on his social media platform Truth Social, repeating a similar plea he made four years earlier. "Do it now, before his funeral!"

The Hall of Fame's board adopted the rule 1 1/2 years after Rose agreed to the ban, and the same year that he would have become eligible to be on the ballot for the first time.

"It was obviously aimed at Pete Rose, and from that day forward and to today, my position, the position of millions of others is, yeah,

we get it, he broke the cardinal rule. He should be banned from baseball under that rule for life," long-time broadcaster Bob Costas said Tuesday on ESPN's "Get Up!" morning show. "But somebody got those 4,256 base hits and those three batting championships. Put him in the Hall of Fame, put it at the bottom of his plaque 'banned from baseball 1989, for life'. It's part of the record, but he should be in as a player." Baseball's longstanding

Rule 21 about misconduct, which is prominently displayed in every MLB clubhouse, states any player, umpire, or club or league official or employee who bets "upon any baseball game in connection with which the bettor has a duty to perform, shall be declared permanently ineligible."

An investigation for MLB by lawyer John M. Dowd found Rose placed numerous bets on the Cincinnati Reds to win from 1985-87 while

playing for and managing the team. Rose applied for reinstatement in 1997 and met with Commissioner Bud Selig in November 2002, but Selig never ruled on Rose's request.

Current MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred in 2015 denied Rose's application for reinstatement, concluding Rose continued to gamble and would be a risk to the sport's integrity if allowed back in the game.

"Pete Rose violated what is sort of rule one in baseball, and the consequences of that are clear in the rule, and we've continued to abide by our own rules," Manfred told the Baseball Writers' Association of America in 2023. "It's just the rules are different for players. It's part of the responsibility that comes with the privilege of being a major league player."

Manfred plans to retire when his current term ends in January 2029, so it is possible the next commissioner could reconsider Rose's ban.

At the time the ban agreement was announced, then-Commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti said: "The burden is entirely on Mr. Rose to reconfigure his life in a way he deems appropriate." □

## Jets' Lazard expects NFL to fine him over gun-like celebration

By **DENNIS WASZAK Jr.**  
AP Pro Football Writer

**FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP)** — New York Jets wide receiver Allen Lazard expects to be fined by the NFL for his celebration after a catch against Denver last Sunday that included what officials deemed to be a gun-like gesture.

"It's something that's very silly," he said Wednesday. "Very, very silly."

The wide receiver said his coaches have talked to him about it, but added he has received "zero clarification from the NFL" on the 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty for which he was called.

Lazard caught a 12-yard pass from Aaron Rodgers in the third quarter of the Jets' loss to Denver when, while sitting on the turf, he signaled for a first down by flicking his hands in a gun-like motion.

"It's very unfortunate that I'm the victim of this situation," he said.

"But it is what it is and it's part of the NFL and it's a part of the entertainment factor."

The NFL has warned players to not make "violent gestures." Atlanta wide receiver Drake London was fined \$14,069 for an unsportsmanlike conduct/violent gesture for a gun-like touchdown celebration in a recent game. Giants rookie wide receiver Malik Nabers was also recently fined \$28,128 for two gun-like celebrations after a score.

Lazard suggested he could reach out to the NFL Players Association or have the Jets' coaches contact the officials because of a weekly e-mail that's sent that includes missed calls and corrections.

Lazard said if he's fined for his gesture, "they're definitely going to exempt it" because he said "it wouldn't make sense to fine someone for something that you never warned them (about)." □



New York Jets wide receiver Allen Lazard (10) is congratulated by New York Jets head coach Robert Saleh after Lazard scored a touchdown against the New England Patriots during the first quarter of an NFL football game, Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024, in East Rutherford, N.J.

Associated Press



# Knicks add Karl-Anthony Towns from Timberwolves after completing three-team trade with Hornets

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**  
AP Basketball Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Karl-Anthony Towns joined the Knicks on Wednesday after the Minnesota Timberwolves sent their four-time All-Star to New York in a three-team trade that also included the Charlotte Hornets.

The deal was agreed to Friday but took a few days to complete under the NBA's complicated new trade rules, meaning Towns has not been able to practice with the Knicks in their first two days of training camp in Charleston, South Carolina. The Knicks can't wait to plug him into their center spot, believing his outside shooting can be the key for a team that thinks it can contend for a title this season.



Minnesota Timberwolves center Karl-Anthony Towns (32) drives to the basket over Dallas Mavericks forward Maxi Kleber (42) during the second half in Game 4 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals, Tuesday, May 28, 2024, in Dallas.

Associated Press

"He possesses a blend of bounding and defending size allows him to compete playmaking, shooting, re- that in combination with his at a level that is rare in this

league," Knicks President Leon Rose said in a statement.

The Timberwolves received three-time All-Star Julius Randle and guard Donte DiVincenzo from the Knicks, while reacquiring Keita Bates-Diop and also receiving a first-round pick.

Towns arrived in Minnesota as the No. 1 pick in the 2015 draft and leaves what appears to be a team on the rise. The Timberwolves reached the Western Conference finals last season, even though Towns was limited by injuries to 62 games last season.

Now the 7-footer, who has averaged 22.9 points and 10.8 rebounds while shooting 39.8% from 3-point range, leaves behind an All-Star pairing with Anthony Edwards for one with Jalen Brunson.

"Nine years ago, I arrived in Minnesota as a young man with a dream. Little did I know that this place would become my home, and its people would become my family. Your love, support, and unwavering loyalty have fueled my journey and inspired me to be the best player I could be," Towns wrote on X in what he called a post to the Timberwolves family.

"Thank you to my teammates, coaches, and the entire Timberwolves organization for the countless opportunities and experiences. I'll cherish the friendships I've made and the battles we've fought together."

He rejoins Tom Thibodeau, one of his former coaches in Minnesota, after the Knicks gave up two key pieces to get him.

Randle was the NBA's Most Improved Player in 2021, when he led the Knicks to their first playoff berth since 2013, and the Knicks went to the postseason in three of his five seasons in New York after being one of the league's worst teams before he arrived. The Knicks reached the Eastern Conference semifinals the last two years, though Randle missed the postseason last season after surgery for a dislocated shoulder. □



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